

# **DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**TOMMY LEWIS, PRESIDENT, PRESIDING**

**December 9, 1998**

### **A. CALL TO ORDER**

The December 9, 1998, meeting of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Tommy Lewis, Board President.

Sheriff James Albert Riley, the DeSoto County Sheriff was present and did open the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors meeting in a regular session to hear any and all business to come before the Board. The following were present:

Jessie Medlin-----District 1  
Eugene C. Thach-----District 2  
James D. Pearson-----District 3  
John Caldwell-----District 4  
Tommy Lewis-----District 5  
W. E. "Sluggo" Davis-----Chancery Clerk/County Administrator  
James Albert Riley-----Sheriff

### **B. INVOCATION**

The invocation was presented by Supervisor John Caldwell.

### **C. PLANNING COMMISSION**

The Planning Commission brought several items before the Board of Supervisors as evidenced by the portion of the minutes submitted by the Planning Commission.  
**SEE EXHIBIT C.**

### **D. OLD BUSINESS**

#### **1. Petition - Residents East Craft Road to Accept as County Road**

This item was held over until December 23, 1998. **See Exhibit D.1.**

#### **2) Appointee - County Library Board**

This item was held over until December 23, 1998. **See Exhibit D.2.**

**ITEM E, CONTINUED,**

**D. NEW BUSINESS**

**2) Petition - Saddle Club Show Arena**

Mr. Landon Cooke, past Vice President of SASCA, past President of Lucky J, Cloud Nine, and Lazy W Saddle Club appeared before the Board of Supervisors with a petition requesting assistance for a show arena in DeSoto County.

Mr. Cooke said in the last three years, three of the six arenas have been closed. Mr. Cooke said five saddle clubs have expressed interest in using a county arena and if the arena is covered AQHA has expressed an interest in the facility.

Mr. Cooke said the SASCA show season begins the first week of April and runs through September, with shows held each Saturday night. Mr. Cooke said there are thirty-one events per show for the very young ages to adult.

Mr. Cooke said there are various events from Tennessee Walking Horses; SASCA; AQHA; Little Britches Rodeo; to the National Barrel Riders Association. Mr. Cooke said with the steady development of DeSoto County, the saddle clubs are slowly being closed and pushed out.

Supervisor John Caldwell suggested the old landfill on Starlanding Road as a site for the arena. Supervisor Caldwell said there would be plenty of parking and it would be centrally located to hotels and motels. Supervisor Caldwell asked if the arena had to be covered. Mr. Cooke replied, presently the saddle club arenas are not covered, however, AQHA has expressed an interest in the use of the facility, with a stipulation of being covered. Mr. Cooke said AQHA shows all year long and their shows last for three days.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked Mr. Cooke what he meant by covered. Mr. Cooke said the arena would not need to be fully enclosed—just a covered roof. Supervisor Medlin asked Mr. Cooke about the attendance figures. Mr. Cooke replied they charge by the car load, not individually. Supervisor Jessie Medlin said this is a family oriented function. Supervisor Tommy Lewis said grant money could be a possibility for this project.

Supervisor Eugene Thach suggested the possible use of the old Fairgrounds. Supervisor Thach asked Mr. Cooke if they had spoken with the City of Southaven in regards to funding the show arena. Mr. James Stepp, owner of Sunset Hills Saddle Club said he had spoken to the City of Southaven and they were not interested in the project and it is not revenue producing.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked Mr. Cooke if the County builds a show arena, how will the dates be booked. Mr. Cooke replied, the SASCA Board of Directors meet to set the show dates.

Supervisor John Caldwell said this would reinforce that the cities should not be burdened with all events of the County residents. Supervisor Caldwell said this would only be a small modification in the master plan.

Supervisor Eugene Thach asked if the saddle club could use private enterprises, such as the Circle G Arena. Mr. Cooke replied, if it were a SASCA Show of Champions, SASCA would pay the expenses. However, each individual saddle club cannot afford to rent facilities such as the Circle G Arena due to a shortage of funds.

**ITEM E.1., CONTINUED,**

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked the Board Attorney, William Austin to research for the

possibility of grant money. Supervisor Jake Pearson made the motion, and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to take the issue under advisement with the Board Attorney William Austin researching grant funds available. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit E.1.**

3) **Metro Narcotics - Gary Smith - Settlement from Surplus Sale**

Gary Smith of Metro Narcotics notified the Board of Supervisors the auction was held and Metro Narcotics received proceeds in the amount of \$11,562.75. Mr. Smith said all vehicles, phones, and pagers were sold.

Mr. Smith said including proceeds from the Auction, this brings the balance of the Metro Narcotics matching funds to \$35,000.00. Mr. Smith said the balance of the matching funds is in the amount of \$49,062.00. Mr. Smith said if all money was placed in the matching funds account, that would still leave a balance owing on the matching funds, and Metro Narcotics would have no operating funds left.

Supervisor Jake Pearson asked Mr. Smith what amount Metro could get by with. Supervisor Eugene Thach asked what the minimum to match the grant would be. Mr. Smith replied, Metro Narcotics would need \$30,000.00 to \$35,000.00 from the Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked Mr. Smith if plans had been made to increase the department. Mr. Smith said yes, Metro Narcotics is getting one new officer. Supervisor Lewis asked if the department has made more arrests with the new agent. Mr. Smith said yes, as the new agent began working under cover immediately. Mr. Smith said he would rather have three to four good solid seizures with convictions than a dozen small seizures with no convictions.

Mr. Smith said, at the present time, he feels cases are up with a possible increase in forfeitures and seizures, however, the report is not yet complete for the year end. Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked Mr. Smith how much money Metro Narcotics would need per quarter to operate. Mr. Smith said at the present time he did not know.

This item was held over until December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1998, pending recommendations of Gary Smith of Metro Narcotics and the Comptroller, Dale Thompson as to the amount of quarterly funds needed. **See Exhibit E.2.**

3) **Budget Amendment - Central Maintenance**

The Comptroller, Dale Thompson notified the Board of Supervisors \$150,000.00 was charged to Central Maintenance for the quick take property in connection with the Whispering Woods Golf Course. The Road Manager, Kenny Gunn asked that the Board be made aware with this reduction in his budget for FY99, the overlay projects would fall short.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion, and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to approve an interfund loan of \$150,000.00 from the General Fund 001-000-053 to fund 001-156-148 to be repaid prior to the end of FY99. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit E.3.**

**ITEM E., CONTINUED,**

4) **Civil Defense - Request to Apply for Repayment of Overtime Funds**

County Administrator, W. E. “Sluggo” Davis presented a request for overtime funds for Civil Defense Director T. H. Walker. Mr. Davis said Mr. Walker took vacation time to help the victims with the clean up of Hurricane George. Mr. Davis said the FEMA will reimburse for Mr. Walker’s overtime worked up to twenty-four and one half hours.

Mr. Davis said Mr. Walker is requesting approval from the Board of Supervisors to receive overtime pay for 24 ½ hours from FEMA, which will be reimbursed to the County per normal reimbursement procedures.

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion, and Supervisor Jake Pearson seconded the motion to approve T. H. Walker for overtime pay for 24 ½ hours from FEMA, which will be reimbursed to the County per normal reimbursement procedures. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit E.4.**

5) **E - 911 Bond Sale - Sam Keyes**

Mr. Sam Keyes of Butler, Snow, O’Mara, Stevens, & Cannada appeared before the Board of Supervisors to open bids in connection with the E-911 bond sale. Mr. Keyes received five sealed bids from the Chancery Clerk/County Administrator W. E. “Sluggo” Davis.

Mr. Keyes opened the sealed bids as follows:

1) Duncan Williams -

\$55,500 security deposit, \$2,775,000 - net annual rate of 3.997680%

2) J. C. Bradford -

\$55,500 security deposit, \$2,775,368.90 - Net annual rate of 4.0468%

3) Morgan & Keegan -

\$55,500 security deposit, \$2,775,368.90 - Net annual rate of 4.00467%

4) **NBC Capitol Marketing/People’s Bank & Trust Agent -**

**\$55,500 security deposit; \$2,775,000 - Net annual rate of 3.946298%**

4) First (1<sup>st</sup>) Tennessee Capital Markets -

\$55,000 security deposit; \$2,775,000 - Net annual rate of 4.004332%

Mr. Keyes said he would verify the annual rates and return with recommendations for the bid award. Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion, and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to take the bids for the E-911 Bond Sale under advisement. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. **\*\*See Exhibit E.5\*\***

Mr. Keyes recommended the E-911 Bond bid be awarded to NBC Capital Marketing/Peoples Bank & Trust Agent. Mr. Keyes also recommended adopting the official statement as the original with a new date. Board Attorney William Austin said he would schedule a meeting with Mr. Keyes for validation and closing of the E-911 Bond Sale.

**ITEM E.5., CONTINUED,**

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion, at the recommendation of Mr. Keyes, to award the General Obligation Building Bonds, Series 1998, \$2,775,000 to NBC Capital Marketing/Peoples Bank & Trust Agent. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.  
**See Exhibit E.5.**

4. **Accepting Approval to Move Two Voting Precincts Into the Minutes**

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to accept approval of the U. S. Department of Justice to move two voting precincts in DeSoto County. One precinct is moving from the Walls Satellite barn to the Walls Library and the other from is the Southaven West precinct which is moving from the old Southaven city hall location to the current Justice Court facility. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit E.6**

4. **Approval of Contract With Bell South for Animal Control for Mobile Phone**

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Jake Pearson seconded the motion to approve a mobile phone contract with Bell South for the Animal Control officer Clara Riley. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit E.7.**

4. **Request for Public Hearing for I-55 Improvements**

Supervisor John Caldwell said he would like to review MDOT's plans from beginning to completion to six lane I-55 from the state line to Hernando. Supervisor Caldwell said he has a problem with ramps and the two traffic lights in connection with this project.

Supervisor Caldwell said he would like to see a public hearing for this project, however, Mayor Greg Davis has also requested a public hearing in connection with the I-55 improvements. Supervisor Caldwell said one public hearing would suffice, however, he felt a letter should be sent to MDOT stating the County is interested in this project and a public hearing.

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to draft a letter to MDOT stating the County is interested in the I-55 improvements and is requesting a public hearing. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

5. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The "Executive Session" portion of this meeting is presented under the portion of the minutes called "Executive Session."

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to recess until Wednesday, December 23, 1998 at 9:00 a.m. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

This the 9<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1998, these minutes have been read and approved by the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors.

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TOMMY LEWIS, President  
DeSoto County Board of Supervisors